

Message Text

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STADIS FOR AFRICAN BUREAU////////////////////

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SUBJECT: 'THE RUSSIANS IN BRZEZINSKI'S SOUP'

REF: (A) USIA MEDIA REPORT 141518Z MAR 78 0014G

1. DAILY TIMES MARCH 14 CARRIED AN EDITORIAL CRITICAL OF NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR, DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, LAUDATORY OF AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG, AND GENERALLY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT US AFRICAN POLICY. TIMES, ONE OF TWO NATIONAL DAILIES AND PARTIALLY GOVERNMENT OWNED, HAS CLOSE CONNECTIONS WITH THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL AND OFTEN, BUT NOT ALWAYS, VOICES GOVERNMENT VIEWS. HIGHLIGHTS OF EDITORIAL ENTITLED 'THE RUSSIANS IN BRZEZINSKI'S SOUP' FOLLOWS.

2. TIMES DESCRIBED BRZEZINSKI AS 'FAST BECOMING THE QUINTESENTIALLY UGLY AMERICAN' AND SAID HE HAS THE 'HUMISTAKABLE GLIST OF THE UNREAGERNARATE RUSSOPHOBIST FOR IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT FOR MR. BREZINSKI...THE ONLY WORLD, THE ONLY SECURITY WORTH WORRYING ABOUT IS THAT WHICH REVOLVES AROUND THE SOMEWHAT JADED RUSSIAN-AMERICAN AXIS.'

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3. TIMES DESCRIBES THIS PHENOMENON AS 'UNEXPECTED AND CERTAINLY DISILLUSIONING DEVELOPMENT' FROM AFRICAN VIEWPOINT. IT ATTRIBUTES SOMALIA'S INVASION OF THE OGADEN TO EXPECTATIONS OF AMERICAN SUPPORT AND ADDS THAT 'UP TILL RECENTLY, MR. BREZINSKI WAS STILL WORKING HARD...TRYING TO PERSUADE MR. CARTER TO SEND IN THE

MARINES AND CALL THE RUSSIAN BLUFF.'

4. EDITORIAL WAS ALSO CRITICAL OF RECENT STATEMENTS RE ZIMBABWE SAYING THAT THE 'AWKWARD AND UNINTELLIGIBLE DECLARATION BY THE AMERICANS THAT IAN SMITH'S 'INTERNAL SETTLEMENT' IS A 'STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION' CAME FROM BRZEZINSKI'S VIEW THAT IT 'SERVES THE RUSSIANS AND THEIR (FOR HIM) POTENTIAL CLIENTS RIGHT.'

5. CONTRASTING BRZENZINSKI WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG, THE TIMES SAYS 'THE MORE HE GETS MR. CARTER'S EAR, AND HIS INFLUENCE SEEMS TO BE GROWING, THE MORE MR. CARTER WILL BE DENIED THE SENSIBLE ADVICE OF HIS AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, MR. ANDREW YOUNG. ANDREW YOUNG HAS PERSISTENTLY SOUGHT, IN HIS PREACHER'S WAY, TO WEAN THE AMERICAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS ESTABLISHMENT FROM ITS ANCIENT PATHOLOVIES.'

6. ANALYZING THE MAKING OF FOREIGN POLICY IN WASHINGTON THE TIMES SAYS, 'MR. CARTER MIGHT THINK THE BEST WAY OF REACHING DECISIONS BASED ON ALL THE FACTS AND ALL THE OPINIONS IS BY KEEPING THESE TWO MEN WHOSE VISIONS ARE SO MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. WE DO NOT THINK SO. ANDREW YOUNG CAN NO DOUBT ALWAYS FALL BACK ON THE BLACK AMERICAN COMMUNITY FOR SUPPORT WHICH CAN BE CONVERTED INTO ELECTION CLOUT. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUT MR. BRZEZINSKI HAS BEHIND HIM A WEIGHTIER AND MORE INFLUENTIAL LOBBY, VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE AMERICAN POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT, AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO USE THIS TO TWIST MR. CARTER'S ARM.'

7. THE TIMES CONCLUDES, 'ALL IN ALL, THE PROSPECTS FOR A MORE SENSIBLE AMERICAN APPROACH TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS ARE NOT ALL GOOD, ALL BECAUSE MR. BRZEZINSKI IS PRONE TO SEE RUSSIANS IN HIS SOUP. NIGERIANS WOULD DO WELL TO BEAR THIS IN MIND, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF MR. CARTER'S PROJECTED VISIT TO THIS COUNTRY.'

8. COMMENT. TIMES EDITORIAL PRESUMABLY BASED ON RECENT NEWS REPORTS OF DIVISIONS AMONG FOREIGN POLICY MAKERS IN WASHINGTON. EASUM

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